

strangers. Along with Paula Boase, she collected warm clothing and blankets for the homeless and hand delivered these items to those in need. With a steadfast faith and a love of family guiding her, she is a pillar of strength to all who know her. To her family at home and to her "DCC Family" at work, she is truly irreplaceable.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Loretta Cannon for an exemplary 4 decades of dedicated public service. She has effectively served the Downriver community and the State of Michigan in her many roles with the Downriver Community Conference. I join with Loretta's family, friends, and colleagues in extending my best wishes to her in retirement.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GEORGE WILLIAM WHITMORE

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of George William Whitmore, who passed away on January 1, 2021. George was a veteran of the United States Air Force, a husband, friend, and a man who loved adventures with nature.

George was born on February 8, 1931 in Fresno, California to Raymond and Jean Whitmore. His father was a Marine during WWII and became a stockbroker when he got out of the service. His mother worked for Pacific Gas & Electric. During the Great Depression, the family moved to the Central Valley. George attended Salinas High School and decided to study at University of California, San Francisco earning a degree in 1954 as a Pharmacist. During his spare time, George enjoyed climbing and later decided to join the Air Force in the medical evacuation unit as an aeromedical evacuation officer.

After the Air Force, he decided to continue working as a pharmacist, but in the summer, he would spend his time hiking and climbing. George climbed the Andes in Peru and El Capitan at Yosemite with his friends, Warren Harding and Wayne Merry. He served in leadership roles for the Sierra Club, and served as a Chairman for the Tehipite Chapter based in Fresno, California.

George helped establish the Kaiser Wilderness in 1976 and the California Wilderness Act of 1984, which added 1.8 million acres into the National Wilderness Preservation System. He helped protect lakes and block dam projects and highways and also helped prevent Walt Disney Co. from developing a proposed ski resort at Mineral King in the 1960s and '70s. It was stopped after sustained opposition by the Sierra Club and other preservationists, and the valley subsequently became part of Sequoia National Park.

George battled cancer with his wife Nancy by his side. He and Nancy were together for over 40 years and were each other's best friend. George never lost his love for adventure. He enjoyed visiting with friends and he still participated in the Sierra Club meetings, continuing to educate people on the importance of preservation.

He is survived by his wife, Nancy, niece Caroline and husband Bob, nephew Randy and his wife Betty.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of George William Whitmore for his service and contributions to the environment that surrounds us. I join his family and friends in celebrating George's life.

IN HONOR OF DOCTOR EDMUND W. ROBB III

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor the career and community service of Doctor Edmund W. Robb III, Senior Pastor of The Woodlands United Methodist Church.

Dr. Robb will be retiring as Senior Pastor of The Woodlands United Methodist Church after 43 years of honorable service. Before beginning his career with the church, Dr. Robb earned his Master of Theology from The Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University. In 1978, Dr. Robb was appointed to start a new Methodist church in his growing community and began knocking on doors in the neighborhood to recruit members. The church was born when The Woodlands was just a budding community of young families, but under Dr. Robb's leadership, it has grown to over 14,000 members.

Dr. Robb is not only recognized today for his 43 years as an impactful pastor, but also for his dedicated service to The Woodlands community. He spent 20 years serving as an elected official of The Woodlands Township and its predecessor, Town Center Improvement District (TCID). Alongside State Senator Tommy Williams, he led the way in negotiating the agreement that would allow The Woodlands to become a Township. He was an instrumental guide in leading the TCID in partnering with private developers to build the Convention Center, develop Town Green Park and expand The Woodlands Waterway. Dr. Robb has also authored several published books, including "The Wonder of Christmas," "Under Wraps," "Mountaintop Moments" and "Making Room: Sharing the Love of Christmas." His commitment to our community has left a positive impact that will continue to influence The Woodlands area for generations.

Today, Dr. Robb continues to serve the community on the board of the Houston Methodist Hospital and as board Chairman of "A Foundation for Theological Education." He and his wife, Bev, are parents to three married children and grandparents to eight grandchildren. Though he is retiring, he will remain actively engaged as a leader in his community and a calming voice of reason to those around him.

After 43 years of exceptional work and service to our community, I am proud to join Dr. Robb's colleagues, family and friends in congratulating him on his retirement and thanking him for all that he has done for our community.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA CLEMENCY HOME RULE ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Clemency Home Rule Act, which would give the District of Columbia exclusive authority, like the states and territories have, to grant clemency to offenders prosecuted under its local laws.

While District law appears to give the mayor authority to grant clemency (D.C. Code 1–301.76), it has been the opinion of the Department of Justice (DOJ) that the president, and not the mayor, has the authority to grant clemency for most offenses prosecuted under D.C. law, particularly felonies prosecuted by the U.S. Attorney for D.C. in the D.C. Superior Court. Under current practice, clemency petitions for D.C. convictions, like federal convictions, are submitted to DOJ for the president's consideration.

Whether or not DOJ's view is correct, my bill would remove all doubt that the District, and not the president, has the authority to issue clemency for local offenses. The District, like the states and territories, should have full control of its local criminal justice system, the most basic responsibility of local government. Since the D.C. Council has the authority to enact local laws, District officials are in the best position to grant clemency for local law convictions. My bill would provide clemency authority to the District and would give D.C. the discretion to establish its own clemency system.

This bill is an important step in establishing further autonomy for the District. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

IN MEMORY OF PRITAM GREWAL

HON. JOSH GOTTHEIMER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. GOTTHEIMER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Pritam Singh Grewal, one of North Jersey's most compassionate community leaders. Raised in India, Pritam immigrated directly to the Fifth District in 1972 and dedicated himself to our community ever since. He was truly an unselfish and deeply caring man who made an impact on everyone who crossed his path.

As a founding member of Glen Rock's Sikh Gurudwara, Pritam helped build a safe space for North Jersey's Sikh community to come together and worship. Having personally visited several times, I can attest to the special atmosphere he instilled in this important Glen Rock establishment.

Pritam always felt a calling to promote quality education throughout his community. He taught mechanical engineering at Fairleigh Dickinson University, and later partnered with his brother, Amarjit, to establish the Grewal, Harchand Singh and Jagir Kaur Memorial Scholarship of Ramapo College, in memory of his late parents.

Pritam was also widely known throughout Hackensack University Medical Center where

the trauma team took care of him after an accident in 2012. He even has an award named in his honor, the Pritam Singh Grewal Good Samaritan Award, to recognize outstanding staff at Hackensack who share his sense of compassion and dedication to service.

A loving husband, father, and grandfather, Pritam cared deeply about his family. He was loved and cherished by many people including his spouse Paramjit Kaur Grewal and his children Shivpreet and Balpreet. I join them not only in their grief and in celebration of Pritam's incredible life.

While Pritam is no longer with us, his spirit, legacy, and impact on North Jersey will live on forever. I know his loving family will continue to honor him by leading the kind of life that he did—one grounded in compassion, service, and an understanding of the importance of lifting up one's community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF S.
CHARANJIT SINGH

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. S. Charanjit Singh, who passed away on May 12, 2021. He was a successful family and business man and member of the Central Valley with his children and wife.

Mr. Singh was born in India in 1950 and came to the United States in 1988 from Ludhiana, Punjab. He and his family settled in Los Angeles, California managing multiple convenience stores. He was a hard worker and provided for his two sons, daughter, and his wife. In 2003, Mr. Singh decided to move his family to Fresno, California.

Living in the Central Valley, Mr. Singh flourished his businesses. He was a business owner of purchased and newly built stores. Mr. Singh had over 30 gas stations and liquor stores. He could prioritize his time, manage multiple stores, and have time for his family. Mr. Singh would attend many events in the Central Valley including many of my own and he would often share his wisdom about the Sikh community to me.

Mr. Singh is survived by his beloved wife, Darshan Kaur; two sons Navjeet Chahal and Baljit Singh Chahal; daughter Parampreet Kaur, and his six grandchildren. Mr. Singh will be missed by the community and his friends.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the life of Mr. S. Charanjit Singh. I join his family, friends, and the community in celebrating his great life.

IN HONOR OF ARCHIE SPIGNER

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. MEEKS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the honorable life of Archie Spigner, whom I will remember as a distinguished constituent, friend, and mentor. Archie was and will always be my Jackie Robinson. The road

for Black political leaders in my district, in Queens and in New York City is a much smoother one today because Archie paved that road for us. However, metaphorical roads were not the only ones he dedicated his life to.

Archie knew the streets of Southeast Queens better than anyone I've ever met. As a public servant for over 20 years, Archie spent his career building better roads, as well as better schools, train lines, senior programs, housing programs, and sewers. It was often said that the roads to public office in our neighborhoods ran through Archie. His life was truly dedicated to our community, and his accomplishments are evidence.

Born in South Carolina during the height of Jim Crow and segregation, Archie leaves this Earth as the godfather of politics in Queens and boasts several Black elected officials including myself that called him "mentor".

While studying parliamentary procedure he became a steward at a shoe factory which led to his career advocating for the common worker. As a labor organizer, he met A. Philip Randolph, one of the principal architects of the March on Washington. He founded the Queens Branch of the Negro American Labor Council right out of his living room. His work as an organizer put him in close contact with his political mentors including Assembly Member Guy R. Brewer and State Supreme Court Justice Kenneth Browne.

While attending Queens College of the City of University of New York where he would earn his bachelor's degree, he worked as the liaison to the African American community for Queens Borough President Sidney Levis. Soon after the New York City Council was expanded, Archie was elected to represent the 27th District, where he would go on to serve for 27 years. During his tenure, he chaired three committees: The Legislative Office of Budget Review, Economic Development, and Housing and Buildings. His work with the budget review office led to the creation of the ever-important independent budget office. He also championed some of the borough's first Business Improvement Districts and Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Programs while on the Economic Development Committee.

Somehow he managed to have "free" time and spent it serving as Deputy Majority Leader and Co-Chair of the Queens Delegation. Archie spent every moment he could helping his community and his accomplishments are all over Queens. He established mandatory sensitivity trainings for every police precinct in the city. He helped create York College, along with many new middle and high schools. He codified protections against red lining and worked on a number of infrastructure projects, including the incorporation of the E train extension, new sewers, street rehabilitation, and the New Social Security building. The systemic problems being grappled by this House today were no strangers to Archie, and he dedicated a career in public office to alleviating those burdens that continuously plague underserved communities. Mostly, however, Archie just wanted to help his neighbors.

Before I first ran for Congress, Archie told me, "make sure you always help people, be honest with people, and stay on the ground." After his tenure as a City Council Member, Archie went back to his neighborhood and became a district leader in the Queens County

Democratic Party and was head of the Guy R. Brewer United Democratic Club, named after his old mentor. Cementing his mark on the community, I introduced a bill in 2004 to rename a St. Albans post office after him, which at the time, was the only commemoration of its kind to be ever given to a living person. At the commemorating ceremony, schoolchildren sang, "if Archie Spigner works for you, clap your hands," which was a line greeted with roaring applause.

The Book of Matthew tells us that "when the Son of Man comes in his glory," he will sit on his throne and judge both the living and the dead, saying the following to those who are to be saved: "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." I do not find it difficult to imagine what kind of person from our time will be destined to join in God's glory. I have had the pleasure of knowing someone so vehemently dedicated to improving the lives of their fellow man. That person was Archie Spigner. He pursued criminal justice and equities in economic and housing opportunities that demonstrated a passion for loving his neighbor as he would himself. He worked for reform in his community so that more could prosper and share in the promise of this country. He was both an idol American and Christian, and it is an honor to have known him.

CELEBRATING THE CENTENNIAL
OF FREDERICK DOUGLASS PARK

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2021

Mr. CARSON. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commemorate the centennial of Frederick Douglass Park in Indianapolis. This historic park honors the memory and legacy of legendary abolitionist Frederick Douglass. Located in the Martindale-Brightwood neighborhood on the east side of Indianapolis and maintained by the City of Indianapolis's parks department, the Frederick Douglass Park has been an integral part of our city for generations by bringing our community together.

The park's history reflects America's civil rights journey. It opened in 1921 in the Jim Crow era to serve Black citizens, as they were excluded or intimidated from visiting other recreational spaces in Indianapolis. Black Hoosiers embraced the park, organizing and advocating for its maintenance and improvement. Frederick Douglass Park is well known for its role in cultivating Black golfers, and it has hosted professionals such as Ted Rhodes, Charlie Sifford and Tiger Woods. Today, it is visited and appreciated by Hoosiers of many different backgrounds.

Frederick Douglass Park continues to play an important role in Indianapolis, and in celebration of its 100 years, our community is planning a series of events including a golf tournament, festival, and movie night. The City of Indianapolis will additionally announce a